

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2005 • THE BULLETIN

TRAVEL

Zurich's too good to miss

Among other surprises, Tina Turner pops up

By Gary Lee
The Washington Post

There I was at Zurich's staid debutante ball, in the middle of a crowd of dolled-up teenagers, when who should bounce onto the dance floor but Tina Turner. Turns out the leggy R&B goddess has lived in the Swiss city for 19 years. Decked out in a glamorous gown, Turner let a spirited rendition of "We Are Family" carry her into an energetic boogie. And naturally, she kept up a fiery dance pace long after the rest of us started to fade.

Any doubts I had about how high Zurich ranks on the cool meter evaporated in that moment.

Most guidebooks dismiss Switzerland's largest city as an uninspiring warren of church steeples, fondue eateries and pricey boutiques. Although the airport is a popular arrival point for transatlantic travelers, most bypass the city for Lucerne, Zermatt or other more picturesque Swiss locales. Resisting the lure of the Alps, this spring I instead opted to explore the urban life of this pristine European country.

See Zurich / D4

SPOTLIGHT

Sagebrush Classic set for July 15-16

The 16th annual Sagebrush Classic will be held at Broken Top Club on July 15 and 16.

The Sagebrush Classic is a culinary and golf fundraising event for the Deschutes Children's Foundation and other local charities. The event will feature 16 celebrity chefs of national and international renown as well as 52 foursomes competing in the golf tournament.

The event begins on July 15 with the golf tournament. July 16 features the Sagebrush Classic Feast, where 1,100 guests will dine on a variety of culinary choices prepared by the visiting celebrity chefs. The Kingsmen will provide musical entertainment.

The event is sponsored by Deschutes Brewery.

Broken Top Club is located at 62000 Broken Top Drive, Bend. For the feast, contact 503-332-5000.

For the golf tournament, contact 385-8606.

Time to sign up for 'High Desert Idol'

Central Oregon is searching for its next "High Desert Idol" this summer. Open to singers from age 16 to 28, auditions will be held July 9 at the Bend Summer Festival dance stage in downtown Bend starting at noon.

Contestants will be rated on quality of performance (50 percent), personality (25 percent) and overall appearance (25 percent). The semi-finalists will compete again on July 10 starting at noon. Ten finalists will be chosen to perform one song at the finals at the Deschutes County Fair main stage on Aug. 6.

Sponsored by Fox 39, Power 94 and Robberson Ford, the 2005 High Desert Idol winner will receive an automatic entry to the American Idol 5 audition in San Diego, Calif. The trip includes airfare, lodging, an Acer laptop and a recording session courtesy of Mallin Music Ranch of Sisters.

Singers must register by July 1 at Robberson Ford to be eligible, and entries are limited to the first 100 received. For a complete listing of rules for entry, visit www.kfxo.com.

— From staff reports

Chris Duffin pauses in front of his home in La Pine in 1995. The straight-A student and athlete from an impoverished household struggled to pay for college.



Bulletin file photo

1995 La Pine High School graduate Chris Duffin has proven that hard work and determination are the keys to success.

Self-made man



Chris Duffin chats with his girlfriend, Lisa Staver, inside their Portland home. Duffin, a 1995 La Pine High valedictorian, worked hard to achieve a middle-class life.



Submitted photo

Duffin, at center, sits in a 2004 photo with his sisters, from left, Melissa Smith, Janis Smith and Amy Smith, and Melissa's dog McKenzie. Starting in college, Duffin, the eldest, helped raise his siblings. They look to him as a role model.

By Heidi Hagemeier
The Bulletin

PORTLAND — Chris Duffin's home is a place of blooming fruit trees and large sunny windows, surrounded by a white picket fence.

It's the refuge he returns to after a day of tackling capital budgets and capacity planning as production leader at Clackamas-based Warn Industries. He supervises 50 or so employees who manufacture parts for truck winches.

On weekends, the 28-year-old spends time in domestic tranquility on the Southeast Portland property that he purchased with his girlfriend. He dives into homeownership projects or tinkers with his off-roading Jeep in the garage, rebuilding it, testing it out, rebuilding it again when he's not satisfied.

It's normalcy that he cherishes.

"I'm really happy with where I am at," he said.

For Duffin, a middle-class life wasn't a foregone conclusion.

He grew up as the oldest of four siblings in a destitute, transient family that spent about three years being homeless.

The situation became so bad at one point that his parents asked state officials to put him and his three sisters in a foster home. They didn't want their children to live this way anymore.

He worked hard, earning straight A's and athletic accolades. But when it came time to apply for scholarships, Oregon State University passed him up and other organizations turned him down.

It appeared that Duffin — a 1995 La Pine High School valedictorian, star wrestler and Habitat for Humanity volunteer when he grappled with poverty himself — might not go to college.

But Duffin said that at age 18, he was determined that his life would be different.

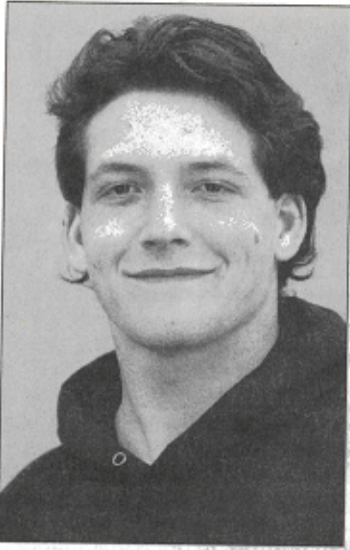
He opened up about his life to The Bulletin in 1995, a tough task for one who rarely talked about his circumstances. In response, Central Oregonians began pouring in donations to help send him to college.

Duffin continued on a path of sacrifice — one that included holding down a full-time job and becoming a parent to his younger siblings while in college.

See Self-made / D10

"He kind of excels at everything he does. There's never anything he does half way."

— Melissa Smith, 22, Chris Duffin's sister



Bulletin file photo
Chris Duffin poses for a photo as an 18-year-old La Pine High School senior in 1995.

Self-made

Duffin adopted his sister Melissa Smith when she was 16

Continued from D1
Eventually, he made it out of poverty.

The achievement makes Duffin a rarity, and an example.

"For Chris to come out of that cycle is the exception, not the rule," said Rusty Zysett, who taught and coached Duffin at La Pine High. Having attended numerous trainings on poverty and seen it firsthand, Zysett said many who grow up in impoverished homes will live like their parents.

As a senior in high school, Duffin swore to a newspaper reporter that he would not let it happen.

"You can always sit there in self pity and say, 'Oh, look how bad life is treating me,' or you can just get down and do it," he said. "You can go out and live life and not let life live you."

A long road

When Duffin was a child, his family stayed on the move.

Duffin and his three sisters trailed his mother and stepfather, who pursued work in California and then throughout Central Oregon. They lived near Madras for awhile, then in tents in the Ochoco Mountains outside Paulina.

It was during this time, including a harsh winter spent sleeping in the back of a pickup, that Duffin decided his life would be different.

The situation improved when Duffin's stepfather received a small injury settlement, which he used to buy a double-wide mobile home for the family in La Pine.

Entering high school there, Duffin dealt with his life setbacks by working harder.

He eventually covered his La Pine High letterman's jacket with medals. He earned academic awards like one presented by the Oregon Council of Teachers and the Oregon Department of Education for outstanding math achievement.

He admits now that absorbing information in class perhaps comes more easily to him than others. "That's one thing I've probably been pretty lax about is studying," he said.

But outside school, sister Melissa Smith recalled him rarely sitting still.

"I think he's a bit of a workaholic," she said.

He pounded nails for Habitat for Humanity and helped distribute baskets to the needy at Christmas. He held down a job waiting tables, giving the tips to his family.

Zysett remembered Duffin announcing at the end of wrestling season his junior year that the following year he would be the district champion.

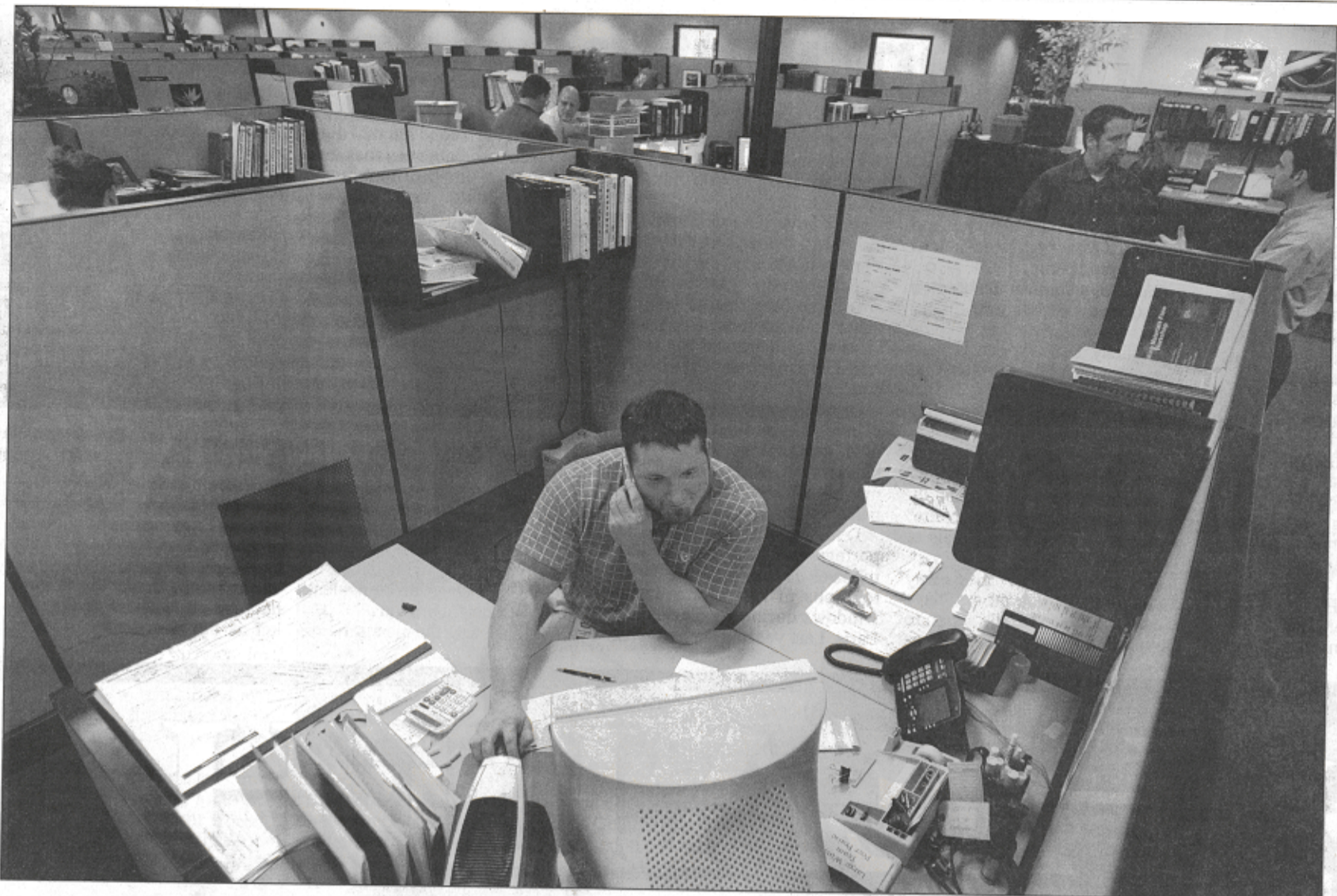
"There was nothing in his previous performance that would indicate he would do that," Zysett said. "It was a tough division. Sure enough though, he ends up winning the district championship."

"He just kind of has a way about him that, 'I'm going to figure this out, I'm going to achieve it,'" he continued. "You just believed in him."

One day before the school year began, Zysett ran into Duffin running wind sprints with a friend on the high school football field. Duffin convinced the teen to join wrestling and that they should start getting in shape then for the winter sport.

"I always say as a high school teacher and coach, life is a big cliff," Zysett said. "Most high school students are somewhere on that cliff. Some fall to the bottom and pull others down — misery loves company."

"Others figure out how to get on top and pull others up to their level. That's Chris — he made



Chris Duffin multitasks at his cubicle at Warn Industries in Clackamas, where he works as a production leader supervising more than 50 people.

Andy Tullis
The Bulletin

everyone around him better."

During his senior year, Duffin set his sights on his next goal: to study engineering and wrestle at Oregon State University.

The disappointment seemed great, then, when the university rejected his bid for a \$10,000 scholarship. Unwilling to saddle himself with huge amounts of debt annually, he resolved to work, save money and after awhile attend Central Oregon Community College.

Still, it seemed a dream denied. Scrambling for scholarships, Duffin applied in 1995 for one sponsored by The Bulletin. It required an essay.

Duffin wrote about his family life. The Bulletin didn't choose him for the scholarship, but someone did pass Duffin's essay on to a reporter.

Cooperating for a story taxed Duffin. Even people who interacted with him regularly didn't know about his situation.

"My initial reaction was to cry because I had no idea Chris lived like that," Zysett said.

"It was difficult," Duffin said. "I'm not very good at exposing myself. But obviously, I had an objective out of it, which was to go to school."

Donations rolled in. But more importantly, a professor at the Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) in Klamath Falls spotted the story.

The professor secured Duffin a scholarship.

College days

Lounging on the couch in his Portland home, cat Arthur Fonzarelli shifting on his lap, Duffin laughed when considering whether he led a typical college life.

Duffin isn't one to let up on the throttle.

At OIT, he completed the courses for his manufacturing engineering major in three years. He decided against finishing a second major in mechanical engineering.

During his senior year, Duffin worked on his senior project, bought and ran a paintball business, organized a trip to California as president of OIT's chapter of the Society of Manufacturing

Engineers, and started working full time supervising manufacturing crews at Jeld-Wen, a Klamath Falls window company. He also bought a house.

But one of the most significant challenges during his college career was becoming a parent. During his junior year, Duffin legally adopted his oldest sister, Melissa Smith, then 16.

"He was a good role model," Smith said. "That's when I started to change."

At the time, she had dropped out of high school, gotten into drugs and had no place else to go. She moved to Klamath Falls and, at her brother's urging, started working full time.

Duffin's other two sisters, Janis Smith and Amy Smith, have lived with him on different occasions since. He became the person who provides stability in their lives.

Several years after Duffin had been in the work force, he decid-

ed to quit and travel for a year. Yet when one of the sisters suddenly had no place else to go, Duffin set aside his plan. He had already quit his job, but rapidly found another to again take up his role as provider.

One sister was living with him as recently as December.

Melissa Smith said her brother served as a wise figure, even though they acted more like roommates than parent and child.

"I put a lot of responsibility on their plates," Duffin said. "They've made their own ways in life. They're all good kids."

Melissa Smith, 22, is now attending Clackamas Community College. Janis Smith, 21, is married and has a young child. Amy Smith, 19, found a job and is working full time.

"They're always calling asking for advice on something," Duffin said with a grin.

Continued on next page

The Redmond High School
2005 Graduation Party Committee
would like to gratefully say

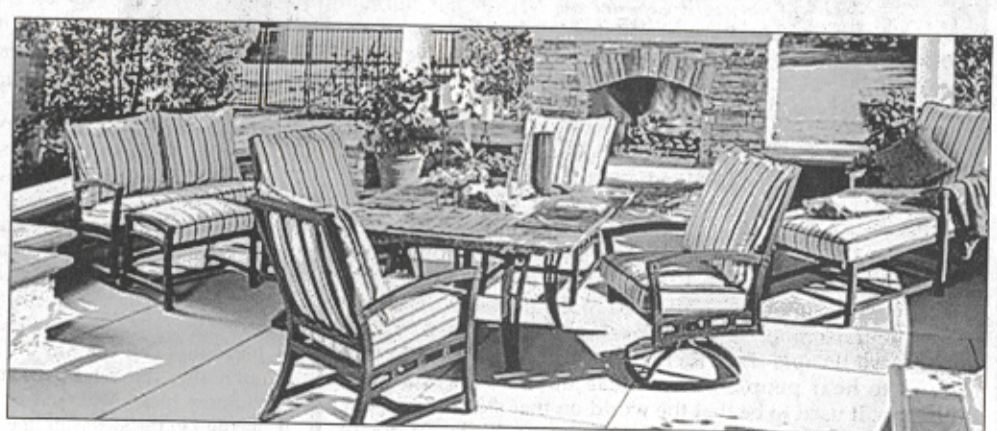
Thank You!

to all the businesses, organizations and individuals who so generously contributed to the 2005 Graduation Party.

Your support helped provide a fun, safe, drug and alcohol-free party for Redmond High School seniors.

Thanks to the gracious donations of money, merchandise and services by community members, the Class of 2005 graduates enjoyed a party they will never forget!

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Continued from previous page

All live in the Portland area. Duffin is the nucleus of family life, as his stepfather died several years ago and his mother moved to Mitchell and isn't a regular part of their days.

Melissa Smith believes she and her sisters are all on positive trajectories because of their brother.

"He kind of excels at everything he does," she said. "There's never anything he does half way."

"Compared to, like, regular families," she continued, "we're actually doing pretty well."

Enjoying life

Even with a secure paycheck and stable home, Duffin has to continue striving for something.

Several years ago, it was going back to school at night for a masters in business administration at the University of Phoenix, which then had a campus in Hillsboro. He did so while working full time and taking care of his family.

In his position at Warn Industries, Duffin also feels pushed to do well. He likes working for a company so committed to giving its employees good benefits and contributing to charitable causes. Duffin can rattle off all the different local organizations Warn employees volunteer at and give to.

But right now, his challenges revolve around weight lifting and off-road sports.

After work, Duffin heads for Nelson's Nautilus gym in nearby Oregon City. He changes from collared shirt and khakis to tank top, shorts and high-top Chuck Taylors, black with red and orange flames.

"He's an animal," said Preston Nelson, owner of the gym, as Duffin headed for the Power Pit, a weight room devoted solely to heavy lifting. "He's so quiet, though, that you wouldn't know."

Duffin has broken down his power lifting workouts into six-week schedules. This day, he does a light workout, which involves a bit of dead lifting — wearing a weight belt and hauling a bar with weights from the ground to waist level. Duffin soon cranked it up to 500 pounds.

On Saturday, Duffin was slated to compete in a power lifting competition in Newport. Results were not available by press time, but he hoped to break the national bench press record. He was 2 pounds off the 580-pound record last time.

His overall goal is to bench press 600 pounds.

"I like power lifting because I don't have to watch what I eat and I can do this with the time I have," he said. "I've got a lot going on besides this."

The lifting regimen has packed muscle on Duffin. In high school, the 5-foot-10-inch Duffin wrestled in a 172-pound division. Today, he weighs about 245 pounds.

He fuels his body by eating every two hours, including setting his alarm for 1 a.m. so he can down a protein shake.

At one point, Duffin started simultaneously training for the Hood to Coast running race, jogging five miles a day on top of lifting. After body pains, his doctor told him he could only do one pursuit vigorously.

"So I was able to say my doctor told me to quit running," Duffin joked.

When not in the gym or spending time with his girlfriend, elementary school teacher Lisa Staver, Duffin is often out in the garage in the back of the house, working on his souped-up, off-road Jeep.

"He's an animal. He's so quiet, though, that you wouldn't know."

— Preston Nelson, owner of the gym where Chris Duffin lifts weights

He went from knowing nothing about auto mechanics two years ago to teaching himself to take the rig apart. The couple and friends recently took the Jeep to Moab, Utah, to explore the red-rock canyon country.

It provides enough challenge in life, for now. As he sat on his couch, hand on Staver's shoulder, Duffin said he is certain his future will be a bright one.

"The things I do, I want to be the best I can be," he said.

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Chris Duffin dead lifts 500 pounds, part of an average workout at Nelson's Nautilus gym in Oregon City. Always seeking a challenge, Duffin has taken up power lifting and is vying to set the national record for bench press. His goal is to bench press 600 pounds.

Andy Tullis
The Bulletin

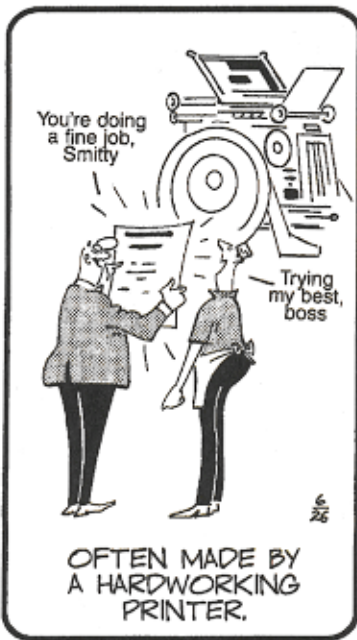
JUMBLE

Unscramble these six Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

FACOSI
INPYGA
PREEMA
FLAGDY
TUCSOC
INJOUR

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW
A ○○○○○ "○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

JUMBLE ANSWER ON D12

Horoscope

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, June 26, 2005:

Trust your instincts, especially after October. Always try to take the high road rather than get caught up in petty details. Give others the space and understanding they need. As a result, you will grow past your present convictions and thought patterns. In fact, you could have an insight or experience that will change your life's direction. Typical of your sign, your domestic life is very important to you. Many of you will remodel your homes or buy new ones. Others will add to their household, in some form. If you are single, the planets present you with options this winter that could encourage a new relationship. If you are attached, love blooms once more. Think of a special trip or experience that will add more depth to your bond. PISCES helps you see the other side of an issue.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
*** Schedule a quiet day in which you can handle everything that you have put off. If you can, do something just for you, whether it is taking a walk or scheduling a massage. A sudden insight needs to be mulled over. Tonight: Early to bed. This Week: Move slowly Monday — then you'll have the edge.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Clearly, others demand your presence. Make it your pleasure to follow along with plans. Friends surprise you, or the events that surround a get-together make you stop and think. Enjoy friends and loved ones. Tonight: Let the party continue. This Week: Act on meetings Monday. At least think about what is said.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** Others look to you for ideas and suggestions. You might not want to be

responsible for others, but somehow you wind up in that position. A parent or older relative surprises you. Just flow with what is happening. Tonight: Try to chill out. This Week: You sparkle, and others follow your lead. Know where you are going.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Meet someone halfway who lives at a distance. At least make a phone call to catch up on news. Steer clear of home and the norm. Hop in the car for a drive, or take some other excursion away from the here and now. Tonight: Spontaneity works. This Week: Don't listen to gossip. Get the facts before you take a stand.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
**** Investigate or at least go along with another's suggestion. Together you will have time to catch up on news, rebound and maybe even run into a surprise or two. Be open to the fact that you both might have changed. Tonight: Just be with that special person. This Week: Work with a partner. Think about the near future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Go along with others' suggestions; you might not be able to do everything you want to do. Choose the invitations that are the most unusual or different. Friends will play an important role. Surprises surround others' behavior. Tonight: Hang out until you have had enough. This Week: You don't hold the cards this week. Accept it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
*** Take time to do what you need to do around the house or for yourself. Perhaps you need to get back into exercising. Share a hobby with someone you care about. You might be surprised by how much you enjoy each other. Tonight: Try for an early bedtime. This Week: Dive into work as if there is no tomorrow. Network midweek.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Toss plans in order to be with a

new friend or a child. Your spontaneity delights others to the point of causing a ruckus. You give others permission to be themselves. Tonight: Even you could be shocked by what happens. This Week: Ever playful. Your creativity flows into work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
*** You don't have to move far from home. Spend time with your most intimate loved ones. Screen calls. You don't have to do anything special. Surprises surround you, even at home! Tonight: Be a couch potato. This Week: You'll move through work with ease if you get enough rest.

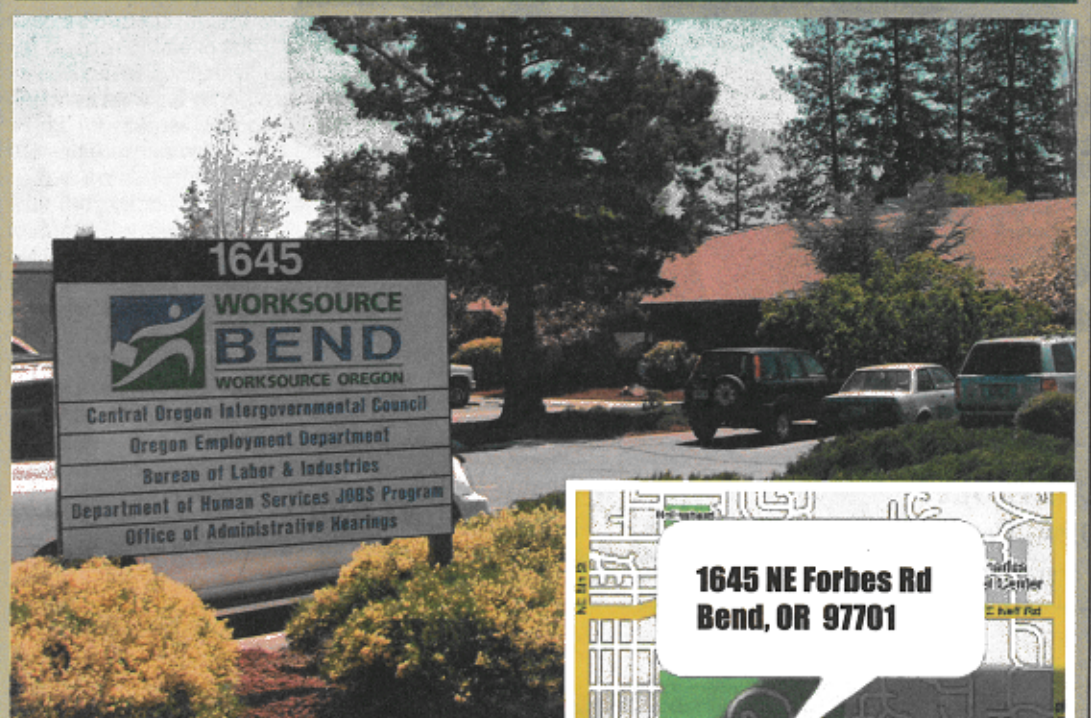
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** You might want to clear the air with someone or say something significant. Hanging out and being receptive to and spontaneous with this person could pave the way to an important talk. Just be yourself. Go out to a favorite place. Have a picnic. Tonight: What happens could surprise you. This Week: Cut the chitchat. Dig into work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
*** Clear out the day and decide not to overindulge. You might have a project to finish. Say yes to a surprise invitation. Worry less about spending, but be cautious when handling funds. Tonight: Try to play it low-key. This Week: Expenses could be a problem. Get other ideas. Make calls and schedule meetings for Tuesday on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** You can't hide your unpredictability any longer. Just make sure no one takes your actions personally. Express your caring more often, and allow others to feel secure. Tonight: Be yourself. Feel free to do what you want. This Week: You are in control on Monday. From Tuesday on, you are not in the same position.

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(Old Forest Service Building across from Pilot Butte)



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www.WorkSourceCentralOregon.org

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"CD COLLECTION" By ROBERT E. LEE MORRIS

ACROSS

- 1 Transferred image
- 6 Make the Top 40, to a deejay
- 11 Home, informally
- 15 Eastern nurse
- 19 Baghdad native
- 20 Place to find piggling string
- 21 Pennsylvania port
- 22 Type of dancer
- 23 Colorado, in 1905, was the first state to observe it
- 25 Brand created in Toronto
- 27 Adventure
- 28 "The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit" author
- 30 Wilson
- 30 Go ballistic
- 31 Anger
- 32 Good for growing, as soil
- 33 Speaker of baseball
- 34 Get off the fence
- 38 Spiritual nourishment
- 39 Precarious place
- 42 Inky, in idyls
- 43 Art on a wall, maybe
- 45 Enzyme suffix
- 47 Inert gas
- 48 Office solution
- 49 See 65-Across
- 50 Qlty.
- 51 Rub the wrong way
- 52 Sub-conscious sensor?
- 53 Pitcher's target
- 55 Wintry forecast
- 56 Foppish accessory
- 58 Senate slot
- 59 See eye to eye
- 60 Notable segment
- 61 Philosophy for doers
- 65 With 49-Across, NBA all-star from China
- 66 West Pointer
- 68 Vittles
- 69 Chill, so to speak
- 73 Left the bench
- 74 Social division
- 76 "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
- 77 Genetic material
- 78 Overabundance
- 79 First name in fashion

DOWN

- 1 Game cubes
- 2 Aphrodite's son
- 3 Math subject
- 4 Marine leader?
- 5 Perfectly clear
- 6 Boorish
- 7 L'EGGS product
- 8 Put two and two together
- 9 Original "60 Minutes" cohort
- 10 Magical title city in a 1903 speaker
- 11 Progressive musical decline
- 12 Middle East nation
- 13 Game winner's cry
- 14 Signet-bearing jewelry
- 15 1992 Wimbledon champ
- 16 Style
- 17 Cultural prefix
- 18 Hall of Famer Wilhelm
- 24 In the altogether
- 26 "Nothing"
- 29 Actor Epps
- 32 Two-time tennis winner
- 33 Biblical possessive
- 34 Comedian Leary
- 35 "Every great film should seem new every time you see it"
- 36 Bakery mixture
- 37 Crash site?
- 38 Procrastinator's word
- 39 Boob
- 40 "Charlie's Angels" costar
- 41 First name in cosmetics
- 43 Like a witch's hat
- 44 Fine fiddle
- 46 Ferrara ruling family
- 48 Spinner
- 50 Fishtank concern
- 52 Do axels, say
- 53 Fox Sports Net cohort Rodney
- 54 Young fellows
- 55 Authority
- 57 Colgate rival
- 58 Squabble
- 62 Lay down new turf
- 63 Panacea
- 64 "Haystacks" series painter
- 66 Animal house
- 67 City on the Rhone
- 70 Poetic contraction
- 71 Cry of submission
- 72 Pop, in Portsmouth
- 74 Trig ratio
- 75 Sore
- 76 Closefisted one
- 79 Visited
- 80 Preside over
- 81 School org.
- 83 Santa
- 84 Novelist Hunter
- 85 Pre-race leader
- 88 DRX shoemaker
- 90 Tree trunk
- 91 Stockpile, with "on"
- 93 Prestige wheels
- 94 Cascade
- 95 New Testament book
- 96 Haberdashery, e.g.
- 97 Take on
- 98 Messed up
- 99 WWII battle site
- 100 Bond opponent
- 101 Mouthful
- 102 Rental company with a Wizard
- 103 Depend
- 105 Bauxite, e.g.
- 107 Strike lightly

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CROSSWORD ANSWER ON D12